

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8847

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 07802

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, FR

SUBJECT: KING OF SPAIN'S VISIT TO FRANCE

REF: MADRID 1980

1. INTERNATIONAL STAFF MEMBER AT ELYSEE CONFIRMS (REF-TEL) THAT FRENCH WOULD PREFER KING TO VISIT A EUROPEAN COUNTRY, TO WHIT FRANCE, BEFORE HIS TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES. HOWEVER ELYSEE HAS GENUINE SCHEDULING PROBLEMS AND IS NOT YET SURE WHETHER IT CAN FIND NECESSARY TIME. WHILE OPTICAL EFFECT OF KING'S FIRST FOREIGN VISIT HAS SOME POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, ELYSEE, NEVERTHELESS, DOES NOT VIEW QUESTION AS OF FIRST ORDER OF IMPORTANCE.

2. OUR SOURCE ALSO CONFIRMED OUR IMPRESSION (PARIS 6351) THAT ELYSEE MAY BE SOMEWHAT LESS CONCERNED THAN QUAI OVER EVOLUTION SO FAR OF EVENTE IN SPAIN. WE ARE TOLD THAT GISCARD CONTINUES TO BE IN PERIODIC DIRECT TELEPHONIC CONTACT WITH KING. WHILE ELYSEE IS SATISFIED THAT KING HAS SO FAR SUCCEEDED IN HOLDING HIMSELF IN RESERVE ABOVE THE BATTLE, IT TOO HAS FEELING THAT KING'S PRINCIPAL PERSONAL ADVISORS ARE TOO CONSERVATIVE, AND THAT TIME IS AT HAND TO MOVE FORWARD WITH REFORMS AT ALL DELIBERATE SPEED BEFORE PRESSURES GET OUT OF CONTROL.
RUSH

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